



EMPLOYEE BULLETIN

EB No. 525

29 June 1976

NOMINATION HEARINGS

for

E. HENRY KNOCHE

The following comments made at the 23 June 1976 hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on the nomination of E. Henry Knoche to be DDCI will be of interest to Agency employees.

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye (Chairman): The Select Committee meets today to consider the nomination of Mr. E. H. Knoche for the post of Deputy Director for Central Intelligence. The Committee has already had the opportunity of hearing Mr. Knoche in Executive session during a five-hour session held last week. I can report that Mr. Knoche demonstrated through extensive testimony that his qualities for the post are of an extraordinarily high order.

This is the first nomination that the Select Committee on Intelligence has had to consider since it was formed on May 19. The post of Deputy Director of Central Intelligence is an important one. The investigations of the past year and important shifts in the international scene have caused changes to be made in the intelligence community. The new Deputy Director will have increased responsibility not only in the day-to-day management of the Agency, but in helping to meet the serious new problems created by changing power relationships in the world.

The nomination of Mr. Knoche, who has spent most of his 23-year career on the analytic side of the Agency's work, is an important indication of the emphasis that the United States Government now places on the intelligence analysis function. The provision of the most accurate and timely information about the capabilities and intentions of other nations and groups, to the President, his advisors and to the Congress is the main reason for the existence of the Central Intelligence Agency and the intelligence community. I am pleased that someone with Mr. Knoche's qualifications and experience has been proposed for this post.

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Both the Executive branch and the Congress are undergoing a revaluation of their purposes and responsibilities, as well as a new definition of their relationship to each other in the area of intelligence activities. Significant changes are taking place. They are long overdue. To make them work will require mutual cooperation and understanding between the branches. This Committee will make every effort to carry out with vigor and effectiveness its responsibility to oversee the intelligence activities of the United States. It will make every effort to assure that the intelligence agencies of the United States are the best in the world but perform their necessary functions under the law.

The duties placed upon this Committee are many. We must monitor all the activities of the Agencies. We must write new charters, clearly defining the missions of the intelligence agencies. Most important, we must restore confidence in the belief that the intelligence agencies of the United States are serving to preserve and strengthen the liberties of the American people.

Before calling on our nominee, I would like to recognize the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Baker.

Senator Baker: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much. I join in welcoming Mr. Knoche to this first series of confirmation hearings. The hearings, as the Chairman pointed out, are significant even beyond the importance of the confirmation of this nominee in that they represent, I believe, an historic first, the exercise of institutionalized and regularized public Congressional oversight of the intelligence community.

It is a matter of great interest to me and one that I have hoped for and worked for for a long time.

I join the Chairman as well in saying that I believe this man to be extraordinarily well qualified to serve in this position and to say in advance that based on the testimony that we have received in executive session and having observed his conduct and demeanor while testifying on matters of great sensitivity previously, have examined his financial disclosures and other materials given to the Committee, I am prepared to say that I intend to vote for his confirmation as Deputy Director.

Mr. Knoche's statement before the Select Committee follows:

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee: I feel very privileged to appear before you today, having been nominated by the President for the post of Deputy Director of Central Intelligence.

I have served the country in military service and in intelligence work for more than 28 years, the last 23 of which have been in the Central Intelligence Agency. Most of my service in CIA has been connected with

intelligence analysis and production. I have also served as a staff assistant to both the Director and the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. More recently, I was the Director's assistant for liaison with the President's Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States as well as with the Select Committees of the Congress in connection with reviews of past intelligence activities. Most recently--since last August--I have been assigned as an Associate Deputy Director engaged in helping the Director to coordinate the activities of the entire Intelligence Community, including CIA.

In the job for which I have been nominated, I will serve under Director George Bush. In accordance with his wishes and as directed by the President's Executive Order 11905 of 18 February 1976, I will act as the officer responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Chairman, the CIA is responsible for collecting, evaluating, and disseminating foreign intelligence information and judgments. Our purpose is to inform or alert the President and his advisors about foreign situations and prospects. The better we do in our work, the easier is the Government's task of formulating foreign policy. Keeping the peace rests in large measure on our ability to provide the best possible intelligence assessments.

The collection, analysis, and production of such intelligence today requires a combination of technology and human sources and special methods. Secrecy of necessity surrounds this work. The secrecy is necessary not because we wish to keep the American public in the dark, but simply because it is often easy for potential foreign adversaries to counter our ability to gather information. In short, we would be blinded if our sources and methods became known. As this Committee knows, the Director of Central Intelligence is charged by law with protecting our nation's intelligence sources and methods.

The CIA, when directed by higher authority, also carries out certain covert actions to lessen the prospects of hostilities or other problems abroad. There appears to be a general agreement--and certainly I feel strongly--that our Government needs such a capability.

Mr. Chairman, out of the reviews of American intelligence carried out first within the CIA and later by the President's Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States have come new guidelines for conducting intelligence activities in the form of the President's Executive Order and policy statements and regulations issued by Director Bush. It is recognized that Congress may wish to add to those guidelines.

We know that strong oversight arrangements in the Executive and in the Congress will be features of our future. We welcome them. And I pledge to you that we will meet the external oversight with improved

internal management and oversight to keep our work within the law and the bounds of propriety. I want to assure this Committee and through it the Congress, that the CIA is a disciplined and constructive agency--one that will adjust to and abide by the guidelines set for it in carrying out activities so important to the well-being of our country. Let me add here a personal assurance: as a Presidential appointee confirmed by the Senate, I would be very much aware of the fact that I will be fully accountable to the Director, to the President and to the Congress for my actions and those of the CIA.

The CIA and its people have been the subject of much criticism over the past year or so. Despite the turmoil, our people have proved their professionalism; day-to-day efforts to collect and evaluate foreign intelligence information, and to produce assessments of foreign situations have never flagged.

Working with Director Bush, I will do my very best to continue the CIA's productive work and to keep it fearlessly honest and objective. I believe the quality of the work is very high, and I will strive to make it even better. The CIA's intelligence product must be responsive to the needs of the President and the National Security Council. We want to improve our intelligence support of the Congress as well, and we will cooperate as fully as possible in meeting Congressional needs.

To sum up, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that I am proud to be a career intelligence officer of CIA. I believe deeply that it is essential, given the nature of the world, that our country have a strong and effective foreign intelligence capability. The quality of the men and women in CIA and their professional discipline and patriotic motivation are extremely high. I know I can count on their full support. Mr. Chairman, I hope that the confidence the President and Mr. Bush have placed in me by nominating me for this difficult job is justified, and I hope I will have your confidence as well. Certainly I look forward to facing the challenges and the opportunities in the tasks ahead.

Thank you.

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